

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 375

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the year 2009 represents the 400th Anniversary of Galileo's astronomical use of the telescope;

Whereas the year 2009 has been designated the International Year of Astronomy (IYA) by the United Nations and UNESCO;

Whereas astronomical observations and discoveries have profound implications for the development of

science, philosophy, culture, and our general conception of our place in the Universe;

Whereas astronomy is one of the oldest basic sciences and contributes fundamentally to the ultimate context of all other sciences;

Whereas astronomy and astronomical discoveries continue to capture the imagination of the American people;

Whereas the United States is the home of the most advanced astronomical research in the world;

Whereas the many creative programs and activities planned in the United States for IYA 2009 are strongly supported by the staff, missions, and observatories of the National Science Foundation and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

Whereas science and technology awareness and education play a critical role in the economic success of the United States; and

Whereas the astronomical sciences inspire students to study science, mathematics, engineering, and technology: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*

2 *concurring*), That the Congress—

3 (1) honors the goal of the International Year of

4 Astronomy to celebrate astronomical discoveries;

5 (2) encourages the public to participate in IYA

6 celebrations and activities and discover more about

7 the Universe and the science of astronomy; and

1 (3) applauds the efforts of the employees, cen-
2 ters, and laboratories of the National Aeronautics
3 and Space Administration and the National Science
4 Foundation in promoting public understanding of
5 the astronomical sciences during the celebration of
6 the International Year of Astronomy.

Passed the House of Representatives July 9, 2008.

Attest:

Clerk.

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To honor the goal of the International Year of
Astronomy, and for other purposes.